

Message Text

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EXDIS

USUN FOR THE SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESEL

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EEC, US, OVIP (ORTOLI, FRANCOIS-XAVIER)

SUBJECT: CRTOLI VISIT

1. SUMMARY: ON SEPTEMBER 25 AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED WITH PRESIDENT ORTOLI OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION HIS FORTH-COMING TRIP TO WASHINGTON. ORTOLI REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHED TO THIS OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE US-EC RELATIONS. IN TALKS WITH PRESIDENT NIXON AND SECRETARY KISSINGER HE WILL FOCUS ON CURRENT STATUS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION (INCLUDING THE TORTUOUS DECISION-MAKING PROCESS), PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS TOWARD GREATER UNITY, AND MEANS OF FURTHERING COMMON US-EC INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES.

2. IN LUNCHEON DISCUSSION OF HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON, ORTOLI INDICATED HIS PRIMARY INTEREST WAS IN HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTS AND US-EC RELATIONS. RECOGNIZING THAT THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS IN THE EC IS AGONIZINGLY SLOW AND COMPLICATED, ORTOLI PLANS TO TRY TO EXPLAIN THE PRESENT SITUATION, THE VARIOUS FORCES AT WORK AND WHERE HE THINKS EUROPE IS GOING. HE REALIZES THAT THE DIFFICULTIES OF DEALING WITH THE COMMUNITY FROM THE OUTSIDE ARE EVEN GREATER. BUT ORTOLI SAID HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE US AND EC MUST WORK MORE CLOSELY TOGETHER AND HE HOPES HIS WASHINGTON VISIT WILL LEAD
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 05470 251822Z

TO BETTER UNDERSTANDING ON BOTH SIDES. WHILE ORTOLI DOES NOT PLAY A VERY PUBLIC ROLE IN THE FIELD OF RELATIONS WITH THE US, HE POINTED OUT THAT IN HIS

CONTACTS WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS LIKE HEATH, POMPIDOU AND BRANDT HE HAD FREQUENT OPPORTUNITIES TO INFLUENCE NATIONAL POSITIONS "BEHIND THE SCENES".

3. ON IMMEDIATE "YEAR OF EUROPE" MATTERS, ORTOLI SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE SUBSTANCE IN THE DRAFT US-EC DECLARATION. WHETHER OR NOT IT IS POSSIBLE TO RECORD AGREEMENT ON GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE TRADE AND MONETARY NEGOTIATIONS, ORTOLI FAVORS A DECLARATION FOR OVERRIDING PSYCHOLOGICAL AND POLICY REASONS. HE SAID THERE SHOULD BE SOME PUBLIC REAFFIRMATION OF US-EC COMMON INTERESTS. HE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO SUGGEST WAYS OF ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVES IN THE LIGHT OF THE TALKS TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND JOBERT AND BRANDT.

4. IF THERE IS ANY TIME LEFT AFTER THE BROAD POLITICAL DISCUSSION OF WHETHER EUROPE AND US-EC RELATIONS, ORTOLI WILL PUT FORWARD HIS STRONGLY-HELD VIEW THAT, IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD, OUR COMMON INTEREST IN A PROMPT AND SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE MONETARY NEGOTIATIONS IS OVERRIDING. HE CONSIDERS THE NEW DEADLINE OF JULY 1974 AS DANGEROUSLY FAR OFF. IN HIS VIEW, WE ARE TAKING GREAT RISKS IN ALLOWING THE PRESENT DRIFT TO CONTINUE. AFTER MONETARY REFORM, ORTOLI SAID HE MIGHT TALK BRIEFLY ABOUT COOPERATION AND COORDINATION IN THE FIELDS OF ENERGY AND RELATIONS WITH LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. ANOTHER SUBJECT ON HIS MIND IS AGRICULTURE AND HE EXPRESSED HIS INTEREST IN THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL AT THE US FOR A WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. IN THIS CONNECTION, ORTOLI REFERRED TO HIS OWN VIEW (AND THE COMMUNITY'S OFFICIAL POSITION) IN FAVOR OF COMMODITY STABILIZATION ARRANGEMENTS.

5. COMMENT. ORTOLI IS OBVIOUSLY LOOKING FORWARD WITH GREAT ANTICIPATION TO HIS WORKING-OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON. HE SEEMS WELL AWARE OF THE OBJECTIVES WE HAVE BEEN SEEKING IN ATTEMPTING TO REACH AGREEMENT ON
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PAGE 03 EC BRU 05470 251822Z

A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE OUR DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS BUT HE IS ALSO AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH THE US FACES IN DEVELOPING THIS FRAMEWORK NOT ONLY IN THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL AREA BUT IN THE SECURITY FIELD AS WELL. HE BELIEVES THAT THE COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS HAVE ALREADY MADE A CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PROCESS: HE AND HIS COMMISSION ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO PLAY THIS ROLE. HE QUESTIONS WHETHER THE COMMUNITY PROCESS NEED RESULT IN A LEAST COMMON DENOMINATOR VIEW AND HOPES WE REALIZE THAT VERY OFTEN THE COMMISSION HAS A MORE POSITIVE AND

CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO PROBLEMS THAN THE SUM OF THE
POSITIONS OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES. ORTOLI ALSO
RECOGNIZES THAT AT THIS STAGE IN THE COMMUNITY'S
DEVELOPMENT, THE US MUST DEAL WITH THE COMMISSION,
WITH THE NINE AS A WHOLE, AS WELL AS WITH INDIVIDUAL
MEMBER STATES ON A BILATERAL BASIS.

6. A SEPARATE TELEGRAM FOLLOWS ON THE SPECIFICS OF
THE ORTOLI SCHEDULE. GREENWALD

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER INSTRUCTIONS SS-O, MR. SARROS.

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